

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (New): A glazing unit comprising:

at least one marking element visible from outside the glazing unit and including a string of characters, wherein that the marking element can be visually identified by whomsoever and is configured to be communicated remotely to an identification device, the identification device incorporating, for a given marking element, characteristics relating to the glazing unit which are configured to be at least partly accessible to the public in exchange for the identity of the marking element.

Claim 29 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the string of characters is a combination of numerals and/or of letters or of pictorial symbols.

Claim 30 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element is configured to be recognized by a character-recognition reader equipment.

Claim 31 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element is communicated to the identification device by a technical communication.

Claim 32 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the identification device includes a database in which all the characteristics relating to the glazing unit are recorded in a form of a string of numbers, each number being coded on one or more successive characters of the marking element.

Claim 33 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 31, wherein the characters of the marking element are a numeric or alphanumeric or binary or decimal or hexadecimal coding of a number in the identifier.

Claim 34 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element or the identifier in the identification device remains unchanged while corresponding characteristics associated with the glazing unit can be altered.

Claim 35 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element is affixed in perpetuity to the glazing unit, or is secured to a part of the glazing unit that is inaccessible from the outside.

Claim 36 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, comprising the same marking element arranged at plural points on the glazing unit.

Claim 37 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element identifies technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, the characteristics relating to its manufacture, the commercial characteristics and characteristics associated with its destination.

Claim 38 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element identifies at least one of the following characteristics:

a commercial name of the glazing unit, and/or a family of the glazing unit, and/or a type of the glazing unit;

a composition of glass in the glazing unit and/or technical characteristics afforded by thin layers deposited on the glazing unit;

dimensions of the glazing unit;

a place of manufacture of the glazing unit and/or a date of manufacture of the glazing unit;

a first customer of the glazing unit;

information associated with a first use of the glazing unit;

a type of certification and/or of standards that the glazing unit meets;

pecuniary information associated with the glazing unit.

Claim 39 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the glazing unit is an insulating unit and comprises at least two sheets of glass and at least one gas-filled cavity separating the two sheets of glass, a spacing of the two sheets of glass being achieved by at least one interlayer, and wherein the marking element is arranged on the interlayer or on a face facing the gas-filled cavity.

Claim 40 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 39, wherein the marking element identifies characteristics of the gas-filled cavity, including its thickness, and its composition, and/or identifies technical characteristics of the interlayer.

Claim 41 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the marking element is engraved or printed onto an element that makes up the glazing unit.

Claim 42 (New): The glazing unit as claimed in claim 28, wherein the glazing unit is laminated and comprises at least two sheets of glass and a plastic interlayer arranged between the two sheets of glass, the marking element being affixed to the plastic interlayer.

Claim 43 (New): A method for identifying a glazing unit including at least one marking element visible from outside of the glazing unit and configured to be visually identifiable by whomsoever, the method comprising:

recognizing the marking element,
after the recognizing, transmitting a content of the marking element to an identification device that identifies the marking with an item of information, and passing-on at least some of this information publicly.

Claim 44 (New): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the recognizing of the marking element is performed by visual reading or electronic reading.

Claim 45 (New): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the transmitting of the content of the marking element to the identification device is performed by mail, or by telephone, or by telefax, or by electronic communications, or by the Internet.

Claim 46 (New): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the passing-on of the information includes listing data provided publicly, verbally by telephone, in writing by mail, or by telefax, or by sending a message by telephone or Internet, or by displaying on an Internet site, or by displaying on any display screen connected to a communications network.

Claim 47 (New): A system for identifying a glazing unit using a marking element affixed to the glazing unit and configured to be identified from outside the glazing unit, the system comprising:

transmission means for transmitting recognition of the marking element to an identification device, the identification device receiving the marking element, the marking element corresponding to information configured to be rendered at least partially public; and forwarding means for passing on the information corresponding to the marking element from the identification device to a reception device.

Claim 48 (New): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein, with the marking element visible from outside the glazing unit, the system further comprises recognition means for recognizing the marking element and for reading the marking element.

Claim 49 (New): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, further comprising at least one filter associated with the identification device so as to pass on only some of the information corresponding to the marking element.

Claim 50 (New): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 46, wherein the transmission means and the forwarding means include mail or telephone, or telefax, or electronic communications means, or Internet type.

Claim 51 (New): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the reception device includes a recording or viewing device.

Claim 52 (New): A method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein the information corresponding to a marking element and contained in the identification device includes technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, characteristics relating to its manufacture, commercial characteristics, and characteristics associated with its destination.

Claim 53 (New): The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein the information is recorded in a computer-oriented manner in a form of a string of numbers, each number being coded on one or more successive characters of the marking element.

Claim 54 (New): The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 53, wherein the marking element is a string of characters that corresponds to a numeric or alphanumeric or binary or decimal or alternatively hexadecimal coding of a number in the identifier.